

Claim Amendments

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) In a seed planter ~~of the type~~ having a metering unit for retaining a circular rotatable seed disk, said seed disk having a center, a first surface, a second opposing surface, and a plurality of transverse spaced vacuum holes through said seed disk, wherein seeds are introduced into a first cavity in a housing defined by said first surface and a vacuum is drawn into a second cavity in said metering unit defined by said second surface, such that seeds are retained against said vacuum holes until they are dropped through a seed chute and into a seed tube, and wherein said seed tube has an upper end that fits around said seed chute and said upper end of said seed tube is moveable with respect to said seed chute in a direction perpendicular to a direction of movement of said seed planter, the improvement comprising

a spacer between a surface of said seed chute and a surface of said seed tube to reduce lateral movement of one with respect to the other thereof.

2. (original) The improvement in accordance with claim 1 where said spacer has a tapered edge to aid in the assembly of said seed tube to said seed chute.

3. (currently amended) A spacer for use in a seed planter ~~of the type~~ having a metering unit for retaining a circular rotatable seed disk, said seed disk having a center, a first surface, a second opposing surface, and a plurality of transverse spaced vacuum holes through said seed disk, wherein seeds are introduced into a first cavity in a housing defined by said first surface and a vacuum is drawn into a second cavity in said metering unit defined by said second surface, such that seeds are retained against said vacuum holes until they are dropped through a seed chute and into a seed tube, and wherein said seed tube has an upper end that fits around said seed chute and said upper end of said seed tube is moveable with respect to said seed chute in a direction perpendicular to a direction of movement of said planter, the spacer comprising

a spacer body,

said spacer body attachable to one of an outer surface of said seed chute and an inner surface of said seed tube wherein said spacer reduces lateral movement of one of said seed chute and said seed tube with respect to the other.

4. (original) The spacer of claim 3 wherein said spacer body has a tapered edge to aid in the assembly of said seed tube to said seed chute.

5. (withdrawn) For a seed planter of the type having a metering unit for retaining a circular rotatable seed disk, said seed disk having a center, a first surface, a second opposing surface, and a plurality of transverse spaced vacuum holes through said seed disk, wherein seeds are introduced into a first cavity in a

housing defined by said first surface and a vacuum is drawn into a second cavity in said metering unit defined by said second surface, such that seeds are retained against said vacuum holes until they are dropped through a seed chute and into a seed tube, said seed chute having an open end with a rectangular cross-section with parallel long sides and parallel short sides with said parallel short sides and a first of said parallel long sides being a removable cover extending across each of said parallel short sides and wherein said seed tube has an upper end that fits around said open end of said seed chute and wherein said upper end of said seed tube is moveable with respect to said seed chute,

a replacement cover having a body with a thickness that reduces said lateral movement between said seed chute and said upper end of said seed tube.